



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/536,053	03/27/2000	Michael K. Just	0500.9912151	5651
23418	7590	12/15/2004	EXAMINER	
VEDDER PRICE KAUFMAN & KAMMHOLZ 222 N. LASALLE STREET CHICAGO, IL 60601			ZAND, KAMBIZ	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2132	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/536,053

Applicant(s)

JUST, MICHAEL K.

Examiner

Kambiz Zand

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 40-44 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-15,17-26,28-35,37,38 and 45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8,16,27,36 and 39 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 March 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.

Applicant's submission filed on 11/29/2004 has been entered.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this section can be found in the prior office action.

3. The prior office actions are incorporated herein by reference. In particular, the observations with respect to claim language, and response to previously presented arguments.

4. New claims 40-45 have been added.

5. Claims 1-45 are pending.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. **Claims 1-6, 9-14, 17-25, 28-34, and 37** are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan et al (2002/0019941 A1) in view of Schmeidler et al. (6,763,370 B1).

As per claims 1-6, 9-14, 17-25, 28-34, and 37, Chan et al discloses the determination of a digital signature verification error (see page 8, second column, third paragraph', page 9, first column, first paragraph', and page 10, first column, second paragraph) and the generation of a digital signature verification map (see page 8, first column, third paragraph and page 9, second column, third and fourth paragraphs) but do not explicitly disclose association of the digital signature with corresponding public key (generating digital signature using public key). However Schmeidler et al. (6,763,370 B1) disclose association of the digital signature with corresponding public key (generating digital signature using public key) see col.26, lines 55-59). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize Schmeidler's public key digital signature algorithm in Chan's method, apparatus and storage medium signature verification error detection in order to provide security to protect the value of the content and prevents unauthorized use and copying thereof (see scmeidler col.2, lines 21-23).

Art Unit: 2132

As per claims 2, 5, 21, 24, 30, and 33, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses the storage, receipt, and digital signature verification map update Page 9 of at least one acceptable message header identifier, which becomes a map entry (see page 8, first column, third paragraph, last sentence and page 10, first column, first and second paragraphs).

As per claims 3, 22, and 31, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses that the generation step includes mapping the plurality of acceptable message header identifiers on a per certificate subject identification basis (see page 8, first column, third paragraph).

As per claims 4, 10, 12, 18, 23, and 32, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses the verification of a digital signature associated with received message information (see page 8, second column, third paragraph', page 9, first column, first paragraph', page 9, second column, third paragraph', and page 10, first column, second paragraph).

As per claims 6, 14, 25, and 34, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses that the message header identifier includes at least one of data representing a sender's email address, telephone number, and unit identifier (page 8, first column, third paragraph; page 9, second column, second paragraph; and page 9, second column, third paragraph, second sentence).

Art Unit: 2132

As per claims 9, 11, 13, 19, 28, and 37, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses that the determination of a digital signature verification error includes the comparison of a public key certificate identifier with the message header identifier (see page 8, second column, third paragraph), the generation of a mismatch notification (see "appropriate error code" on page 8, second column, third paragraph, second sentence), and the verification of a digital signature based on a verification key associated with the public key certificate identifier (See the certificate of the stated message source and SID based on this certificate on page 8, first column, third paragraph', page 8, second column, third paragraph', and page 9, first column, first paragraph. Also see the digital signature of the message that ensures the authenticity of the message source and has a verification key ensured by the above certificate on page 9, second column, third paragraph and page 10, first column, second paragraph.).

As per claim 7, 15, 26 and 35 Chan et al Chan et al (2002/0019941 A1) in view of Schmeidler et al. (6,763,370 B1) discloses the determination of a digital signature verification error (see page 8, second column, third paragraph', page 9, first column, first paragraph', and page 10, first column, second paragraph) and the generation of a digital signature verification map (see page 8, first column, third paragraph and page 9, second column, third and fourth paragraphs). Chan et al also discloses the storage, receipt, and digital signature verification map update of at least Page 11 one acceptable message header identifier, which becomes a map entry (see page 8, first column, third paragraph,

Art Unit: 2132

last sentence and page 10, first column, first and second paragraphs). Chan et al additionally discloses the verification of a digital signature associated with received message information (see page 8, second column, third paragraph; page 9, first column, first paragraph', page 9, second column, third paragraph, and page 10, first column, second paragraph). Chan et al also discloses that the determination of a digital signature verification error includes the comparison of a public key certificate identifier with the message header identifier (see page 8, second column, third paragraph), the generation of a mismatch notification (see "appropriate error code" on page 8, second column, third paragraph, second sentence), and the verification of a digital signature based on a verification key associated with the public key certificate identifier (See the certificate of the stated message source and SID based on this certificate on page 8, first column, third paragraph', page 8, second column, third paragraph; and page 9, first column, first paragraph. Also see the digital signature of the message that ensures the authenticity of the message source and has a verification key ensured by the above certificate on page 9, second column, third paragraph and page 10, first column, second paragraph.). Chan et al fails to expressly disclose the digital signature of the digital signature verification map. However, Chan et al does disclose the digital signature of an email message to ensure that the message is trustworthy, that it originates from the trusted Page 12 message sender listed in the "from" field (see page 9, second column, third paragraph). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Chan et al by

Art Unit: 2132

applying Chan et al's signature technique to the digital signature verification map ("restricted token") containing the acceptable message header identifiers ("restricted SIDs"). One of ordinary skill in the art would have motivated to do in order to ensure that modifications to the digital signature verification map originate from a trustworthy source (see page 9, second column, third paragraph, second sentence).

8. **Claim 38** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan et al (US20020019941A1) in view of Schmeidler et al. (6,763,370 B1) as applied to claims 1, 10, 20, and 29 above, and further in view of Cooper et al (US006052442A).

As per claim 38 Chan et al discloses the determination of a digital signature verification error (see Chan et al--page 8, second column, third paragraph', page 9, first column, first paragraph', and page 10, first column, second paragraph) and the generation of a digital signature verification map (see Chan et al--page 8, first column, third paragraph and page 9, second column, third and fourth paragraphs). Chan et al also discloses the storage, receipt, and digital signature verification map update of at least one acceptable message header identifier, which becomes a map entry (see Chan et al--page 8, first column, third paragraph, last sentence and page 10, first column, first and second paragraphs). Chan et al additionally discloses the verification of a digital signature associated with received message information (see Chan et al-page 8,

Art Unit: 2132

second column, third paragraph', page 9, first column, first paragraph; page 9, second column, third paragraph', and page 10, first Page 13 column, second paragraph). Chan et al fails to expressly disclose the generation of a trusted alias map and the display of at least one subject alias. However, Cooper et al discloses these features (see the directory "t'display" and l'mnemonic tag" in Cooper et al--page 9, first column, ll second and sixth paragraphs and column 10, first paragraph).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Chan et al in view of Schmeidler by generating a trusted alias map relating Chan et al's URLs or sender email addresses to corresponding mnemonic aliases and by displaying these aliases in place of the same URLs and sender email addresses.

One of ordinary skill in the ad would have been motivated to do so in order to facilitate the identification of Chan et al's message sources in view of Schmeidler.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. **Claims 40-44 are allowed.**

10. **Dependent claims 8, 16, 27, 36 and 39 as being dependent upon Independent claims 1, 10, 20, 29 and 38 and having additional allowable features therein.**

Art Unit: 2132

Conclusion

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kambiz Zand whose telephone number is (571) 272-3811. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (8:00-5:00). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (703) 305-1830. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kambiz Zand

12/08/04